

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT** 

DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
1 COURTHOUSE WAY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02210

## ROBERT M. FARRELL

CLERK OF COURT

## PRESS RELEASE April 18, 2018

The Judges of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts have reappointed Magistrate Judge Jennifer C. Boal to a new term commencing May 3, 2018, upon the recommendation of a Merit Selection Panel appointed pursuant to the Order dated January 22, 2018. Judge Boal was first appointed to be a United States Magistrate Judge by the Court for an eight-year term that commenced on May 3, 2010. From 2014 to 2017, she served as Chief Magistrate Judge for the district.

Chief Judge Saris stated: "Judge Boal has been an outstanding magistrate judge, who issues high quality and timely decisions. We are thankful for her active participation in Court committees and programs. The court unanimously approved her reappointment."

As a magistrate judge, Judge Boal presides over pretrial matters in all types of civil cases filed in Federal Court and, with the consent of the parties, presides over jury and jury-waived civil cases through judgment. She also presides over pretrial matters in criminal felony cases, and handles petty offenses, misdemeanor and extradition cases through trial and sentencing. In addition, the magistrate judges in Massachusetts are the principal mediators in the District Court's pre-trial mediation program, which is available to all civil litigants free of charge.

Prior to joining the court, Magistrate Judge Boal served as the Chief of the Civil Division in the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts, and had served in that capacity since August 2002. She supervised a 40-person unit charged with overseeing affirmative and defensive cases in which the United States is a litigant. Prior to being named Civil Chief, Ms. Boal served in the Criminal Division for three years, prosecuting economic crimes and asset forfeiture cases. She also served as an Assistant United States Attorney from 1991 to 1999 in the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York.

Judge Boal is a graduate of Haverford College in Haverford, Pennsylvania and Cornell Law School, in Ithaca, New York. She is a member of the Advisory Group of Magistrate Judges for the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. She is also a Fellow of the Massachusetts Bar Foundation.

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